

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1, 6, 8, 18, and 19 are currently being amended.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, Claims 1-22 are now pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

In section 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended Claim 6 to remove the reference to "text items" and further clarify. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection, under 35 U.S.C. § 112, of Claim 6.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

In section 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Henry, Jr. (U.S. Patent No. 5,881,169). The Examiner indicated that Henry, Jr. anticipates all of the claim limitations of Claim 1 including "the switch being a

switch device located outside of the display.” The Examiner cites in particular, column 4, lines 34-61 of Henry, Jr. Applicant has respectfully amended independent Claim 1 to recite “a pressure sensitive switch” and “a housing supporting the pressure sensitive switch on a side of the housing, the housing being sized to be held in one hand, the switch positioned on the housing such that when the housing is squeezed by the one hand, the switch is toggled” and “the text information entry area is activated in response to manipulation of the switch.” Henry, Jr. does not disclose a pressure sensitive switch on the side of the housing in which the switch is toggled by squeezing the housing. This is an important feature of Applicant’s invention in that it is designed for easy use of a handheld computing device where one hand can hold and squeeze the switch while the other hand is used for text entry using a stylus device on the touch screen. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent Claim 1 is not anticipated by Henry, Jr. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that independent Claim 1 and its dependent claims be allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

In section 7 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 8-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henry, Jr. in view of Danielson et al. (US. Patent No. 5,850,474). Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claim 8 has been similarly amended as independent Claim 1 to include the limitation of a “means for activating and deactivating the means for receiving, wherein the means for receiving is reduced in size or removed from the display when deactivated and the means for activating and deactivating is not located on the display and is located on the side of a housing of the handheld computer, the housing being sized to be held in one hand, the switch positioned on the housing, such that when the housing is squeezed by the one hand, the switch is toggled.” Applicant respectfully submits that the limitation including the switch which is toggled by squeezing the housing is not disclosed, taught, or suggested alone or in any proper combination of Henry, Jr. and Danielson et al.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claim 8 and its respective dependent claims are therefore allowable.

With regard to independent Claim 18, Applicant has amended independent Claim 18 to recite "activating a user interface device to cause a suitable area for receiving hand written characters to be displayed on the display above or behind the touch pad while the user interface device is being activated by the user, activation of the user interface device being caused by applying and maintaining hand pressure on a switch supported by a housing of the handheld computer" and "removing the suitable area from the display when the user interface device is deactivated wherein the user interface device is not located on the display and deactivation of the user interface device is caused by releasing pressure from the switch." Applicant respectfully submits that there is no teaching, disclosure, or suggestion alone or in any proper combination of Henry, Jr. and Danielson et al. for a switch that is supported by the housing in which the switch, to bring up a handwritten character recognition area on the display is activated by maintaining pressure on a switch and is deactivated by a releasing pressure from the switch. This is particularly a useful feature in a handheld computer where the handwriting recognition is not continuously being used and whenever a user wants to bring the area up for use, the housing is squeezed and when the user is finished using the handwriting recognition area, the user just releases pressure from the switch. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that independent Claim 18 and its respective dependent claims be allowed.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check

being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Date September 15, 2004

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